

being protected by the Archaeological Survey of India because of paucity of funds as reported in newspapers; and

(b) the action taken to protect all monuments in Delhi neglected by Archaeological Survey of India?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHR S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the Constitution of India, archaeology is a concurrent subject and responsibility to maintain and preserve monuments devolves on both the Centre and the States. The Archaeological Survey of India is responsible for the maintenance, conservation and preservation of 166 monuments in Delhi which have been notified as centrally protected monuments. The Department of Archaeology, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi are maintaining and protecting 19 monuments in Delhi. They also propose to protect 100 monuments in addition. Besides several monuments and remains of archaeological interest are maintained by local bodies like DDA, MCD and NDMC.

[Translation]

Auranga Water Reservoir

2358. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position of the Auranga water reservoir project of Bihar;

(b) the total amount spent thereon so far;

(c) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed; and

(d) the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Auranga Project was cleared by Planning Commission in September, 1983 for Rs. 125.40 crores. The revised estimate of the project for Rs. 297.81 crores at 1987-88 prices was accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee subject to certain conditions. In the latest review meeting held on 7.10.96 in Central Water Commission the project authorities have agreed to update the estimates at the latest price levels alongwith compliance to outstanding issues including hydrological aspects.

(b) The anticipated expenditure upto 3/96 is Rs. 20.10 crores.

(c) and (d). The completion of the project depends upon the priority given by the State Government. The main reasons for delay in completion is inadequate funding by the State Government.

[English]

Sales Tax by Hindustan Shipyard Limited

2359. SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :

SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate amount of sales tax arrears as on March 31, 1996 in respect of Hindustan Shipyard Limited;

(b) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government was requested to write off the said arrears in view of financial position of the company; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the State Government in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) As on 31.3.96, the Sales Tax Department of Andhra Pradesh Government has raised a demand for Rs. 53 crores approximately. While Rs. 14 crores have been paid by the Hindustan Shipyard Limited under protest, a sum of Rs. 32 crores is covered under Stay Orders of the Andhra Pradesh High Court. For the balance amount of Rs. 7 crores, appeals are lying before the High Court/Tribunals/Appellate Authorities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government has stated that in the light of current ways and means position of the State Govt., it is not in a position to forego the sales tax dues. However, it has directed the Commercial Taxes Department to resolve the outstanding issues with Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., through reconciliations.

[Translation]

Advance Courses by Universities at their own Expenses

2360. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have given approval to all the universities in Madhya Pradesh for conducting advance courses at their own expenses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the fee, donations for those courses are similar to the private educational institutions, as a result of which the students have been facing great difficulties in undergoing those courses; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?